

EXHIBIT G

Steven B. MacLean, Ph.D., P.E.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON DIVISION

Master File No. 2:12-MD-02327

MDL 2327

JOSEPH R. GOODWIN, U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

IN RE: ETHICON, INC.
PELVIC REPAIR SYSTEM PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

This document relates to the cases listed below:

Mullins, et al. v. 2:12-cv-02952
Ethicon, Inc., et al.

Sprout, et al. v. 2:12-cv-07924

Ethicon, Inc., et al.

Iquinto v. Ethicon, 2:12-cv-09765
Inc., et al.

Daniel, et al. v. 2:13-cv-02565

Ethicon, Inc., et al.

Dillon, et al. v. 2:13-cv-02919
Ethicon, Inc., et al.

Webb, et al. v. 2:13-cv-04517

Ethicon, Inc., et al.

Martinez v. Ethicon, 2:13-cv-04730
Inc., et al.

McIntyre, et al. v. 2:13-cv-07283

Ethicon, Inc., et al.

Oxley v. Ethicon, 2:13-cv-10150
Inc., et al.

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VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF
STEVEN B. MACLEAN, Ph.D., P.E.

September 29, 2015

Steven B. MacLean, Ph.D., P.E.

1	Atkins, et al. v.	2:13-cv-11022
	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
2		
	Garcia v. Ethicon,	2:13-cv-14355
3	Inc., et al.	
4	Lowe v. Ethicon,	2:13-cv-14718
	Inc., et al.	
5		
	Dameron, et al. v.	2:13-cv-14799
6	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
7	Vanbuskirk, et al. v.	2:13-cv-16183
	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
8		
	Mullens, et al. v.	2:13-cv-16564
9	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
10	Shears, et al. v.	2:13-cv-17012
	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
11		
	Javins, et al. v.	2:13-cv-18479
12	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
13	Barr, et al. v.	2:13-cv-22606
	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
14		
	Lambert v. Ethicon,	2:13-cv-24393
15	Inc., et al.	
16	Cook v. Ethicon,	2:13-cv-29260
	Inc., et al.	
17		
	Stevens v. Ethicon,	2:13-cv-29918
18	Inc., et al.	
19	Harmon v. Ethicon,	2:13-cv-31818
	Inc., et al.	
20		
	Snodgrass v. Ethicon,	2:13-cv-31881
21	Inc., et al.	
22	Miller v. Ethicon,	2:13-cv-32627
	Inc., et al.	
23		
24	(CAPTION CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE)	

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1	Matney, et al. v.	2:14-cv-09195
	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
2		
	Jones, et al. v.	2:14-cv-09517
3	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
4	Humbert v. Ethicon,	2:14-cv-10640
	Inc., et al.	
5		
	Gillum, et al. v.	2:14-cv-12756
6	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
7	Whisner, et al. v.	2:14-cv-13023
	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
8		
	Tomblin v. Ethicon,	2:14-cv-14664
9	Inc., et al.	
10	Schepleng v. Ethicon,	2:14-cv-16061
	Inc., et al.	
11		
	Tyler, et al. v.	2:14-cv-19110
12	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
13	Kelly, et al. v.	2:14-cv-22079
	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
14		
	Lundell v. Ethicon,	2:14-cv-24911
15	Inc., et al.	
16	Cheshire, et al. v.	2:14-cv-24999
	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
17		
	Burgoyne, et al., v.	2:14-cv-28620
18	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
19	Bennett, et al., v.	2:14-cv-29624
	Ethicon, Inc., et al.	
20		
21	(CAPTION CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE)	
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Videotaped deposition of
STEVEN B. MACLEAN, Ph.D., P.E., held at the
offices of Butler Snow LLP, 1170 Peachtree
Street, Suite 1900, Atlanta, Georgia, on
Tuesday, September 29, 2015, at 9:42 a.m.,
pursuant to Agreement before Michelle M.
Boudreaux, a Registered Professional Reporter
in the State of Georgia.

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1 MR. HUTCHINSON: Polypropylene --

2 MR. THORNBURGH: Yep.

3 MR. HUTCHINSON: I'm sorry. Tell us for
4 the record what you're talking about.

5 MR. THORNBURGH: Pristine polypropylene
6 mesh --

7 MR. HUTCHINSON: Okay.

8 MR. THORNBURGH: -- that is
9 intentionally oxidized.

10 THE WITNESS: Sure. As long as -- we
11 can continue to have this debate as long as
12 it's understood we're not talking about
13 Prolene for -- you said polypropylene.
14 That's what the Wood article talks about.

15 MR. THORNBURGH: I understand. You've
16 been hired and you're being paid by Ethicon
17 to defend its --

18 THE WITNESS: No, I'm telling you there
19 is a --

20 MR. HUTCHINSON: I'm sorry, guys. Y'all
21 need to -- one at a time. Dr. MacLean, you
22 can go on.

23 THE WITNESS: I'm telling you there is a
24 scientific difference, a significant

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1 scientific difference between Prolene and
2 polypropylene. That's what I'm telling you.
3 And the Wood article is square on that. It's
4 polypropylene, not Prolene.

5 MR. THORNBURGH: We're going to look at
6 all of the evidence --

7 THE WITNESS: Sure.

8 MR. THORNBURGH: -- okay? Because you
9 have to look at the totality of the evidence,
10 right?

11 THE WITNESS: Right. I'm just saying
12 you have to be clear about the material
13 you're talking about because if you put -- if
14 you put Prolene in an oxidized environment
15 and you put polypropylene in an oxidized
16 environment, I'm not sure we're going to
17 agree on some of the things that you're just
18 about to say, so we just need to be clear.

19 MR. THORNBURGH: We're going to look at
20 the totality of the evidence; we're going
21 to --

22 THE WITNESS: Let's do it.

23 MR. THORNBURGH: -- explore it
24 together.

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1 THE WITNESS: Can you just repeat that
2 last question?

3 Q (By Mr. Thornburgh) Well, I said -- you said
4 that -- you agreed that oxidizing agents -- that
5 certain oxidizing agents can oxidize polypropylene, and
6 I said especially when the inflammatory response is
7 chronic.

8 A If the oxidizing environment is persistent,
9 then it has the potential to consistently -- or
10 persistently oxidize the polypropylene.

11 Q Because it's a vicious cycle, right?

12 MR. HUTCHINSON: Object to the form.

13 Q (By Mr. Thornburgh) Of the macrophages
14 that's causing this invasion in the tissue, right?

15 A Sure.

16 MR. HUTCHINSON: Object -- hold on just
17 a minute, Dr. MacLean. Object to form.

18 THE WITNESS: That hypothetical is true;
19 however, that is exactly why there are
20 antioxidants in the Prolene formulation to
21 combat the environment that you just
22 described, and we know it does it
23 successfully.

24 Q (By Mr. Thornburgh) Do you know Dr. Wood?

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1 how it's referred to and documented in the scientific
2 literature. And again, they're synergistic, they're
3 working in harmony, they're working together to combat
4 those two mechanisms that we talked about.

5 Q And what is Ethicon's thioester?

6 A It's the DLTDP.

7 Q And the basis for that opinion or
8 understanding?

9 A It's -- I got it from there -- Ethicon's
10 literature, Ethicon's internal documents. That's the
11 antioxidant -- that's the secondary antioxidant that
12 they use in the formulation of Prolene.

13 Q And the reason why Ethicon -- the reason
14 why -- well, is it your understanding that the reason
15 why Ethicon uses Santanox and DLTDP is because
16 polypropylene will degrade without a retarding
17 additive?

18 A In certain oxidizing environments, it has
19 that potential, and that's why you put the antioxidants
20 in it, to negate that potential.

21 (Exhibit 9 marked for identification.)

22 Q (By Mr. Thornburgh) I'm handing you
23 what I've marked as Exhibit No. 9, which is the
24 February 21st, 2003 Ethicon internal document and a --

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1 Q Dr. MacLean, have you seen any evidence in
2 this litigation that Prolene mesh degrades in the body
3 over the lifetime of the patient?

4 A I have not.

5 Q Dr. MacLean, you were asked questions earlier
6 about whether or not you did any GPC analysis. Do you
7 remember that question?

8 A I do.

9 Q What does GPC stand for?

10 A Gel permeation chromatography.

11 Q Did you do any gel permeation chromatography
12 to determine loss of molecular weight?

13 A I did not.

14 Q Why not?

15 A For my experiments, it was not necessary.

16 Q Why wasn't it necessary?

17 A Because my experiments were focused on
18 determining whether oxidized or unoxidized Prolene
19 would actually stain in H&E staining.

20 MR. HUTCHINSON: Let's go off the
21 record. I think I'm about done.

22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now going off
23 the video record. The time is currently
24 7:47 p.m.

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 STATE OF GEORGIA

4 COUNTY OF COBB

5

6 I, MICHELLE M. BOUDREAUX, do hereby certify
7 that STEVEN MACLEAN, Ph.D., P.E., the witness whose
8 deposition is hereinbefore set forth, was duly sworn by
9 me and that such deposition is a true record of the
10 testimony given by such witness.

11

12 I further certify that I am not related to
13 any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage
14 and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of
15 this matter.

16

17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
18 hand this 1st day of October 2015.

19

20

MICHELLE M. BOUDREAUX, RPR

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